

# Indiana House of Representatives

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## News and Information

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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### **STILWELL, CROOKS, OXLEY HONOR FOREST PARK BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS**

INDIANAPOLIS – Indiana House members today joined State Reps. Russ Stilwell (D-Boonville), Dave Crooks (D-Washington) and Dennie Oxley (D-English) in recognizing the excellence of the Forest Park High School boys basketball team, which completed a dream season in March by winning the state 2A boys basketball championship.

The efforts of Coach Tom Beach and the Rangers were recognized with a House resolution authored by the three lawmakers. Beach and members of the team appeared on the House floor as part of the celebration.

"Whenever we talk about the Hoosier basketball tradition that has given our state recognition around the world, one of the things that has marked that tradition has been the story of the small school that has risen to excellence through heart, spirit and a desire to succeed," Stilwell said.

"The Forest Park Rangers typify that tradition, as demonstrated by their comeback win in the championship game at Conseco Fieldhouse on March 26," he continued. "The Rangers were able to overcome a 10-point deficit in the third quarter to defeat Fort Wayne Harding 68-63, setting off a celebration in Ferdinand that continues to this day."

The resolution emphasizes that the team's championship and great season are the result of a total team effort, and praises each member of the managers and the coaching staff.

Copies of the resolution will be presented to team members Michael Foertar, David Welp, Tim James, Matt Atkins, Nathan Allen, Brett Schlachter, Jace Hasenour, Kyle Schroening, Brandon Hopf and Clint Hopf, and student managers Curt Bromm and Brad Weyer.

In addition to Coach Beach, the resolution also recognizes assistant coaches Matt Sisley, Nate Hawkins and Phil Winkler; Athletic Director Doug Loudon; Forest Park Principal Jeff Jessee; and Superintendent Robert Johnson.

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